Final Conclusions Norway Grants Management Meeting 2009-14 6th meeting 7 June 2012 in NMFA, Oslo

1. Meeting agenda

The draft meeting agenda was adopted with the following amendment: Agenda item 4 was discussed before agenda item 3.

2. Draft Minutes and Conclusions from the last meeting

The Draft Minutes from the last meeting were adopted.

The Draft Conclusions were adopted.

3. Follow up issues from last meeting

3.1 Preliminary Risk Assessment

High political priority is given to risk assessment within the Financial Mechanisms 2009-14. A first risk assessment was submitted for discussion prior the meeting, along with an updated Risk Management Strategy. The Management discussed both the assessment of risk as well as the strategy and made remarks to further development of methodology; indicators; risk assessment in GRDs; and a first risk assessment to be presented for FMC in June 2012.

Risk assessments will be integrated in all levels of the grant management from now.

4. Issues for discussion

4.1 Director's assessment

The FMO Director highlighted the current main issues. The NMFA took note of the assessment and deferred discussion on the issues to the relevant agenda items.

4.2 Status of implementation

The format of the progress report was discussed and some adjustments will be made to it.

4.2.1 Main issues

The FMO presented the status of implementation in the Beneficiary States for the countries that currently require specific follow up.

4.2.2 Annual Meetings

Five Annual Meetings have been organised since the last Norway Grants Management meeting. The NMFA underlined the importance of following the timeline as agreed in Annual Meeting Routines. The FMO should emphasise issues of strategic importance

4.2.3 Consultation process leading up to GRD finalisation

The Management discussed the consultation process between beneficiary state, the NMFA and the FMO.

4.2.4 Overview of expected dates for GRD submission

An overview of expected dates for GRD submission was presented.

4.3 Bilateral funds at national level – status

FMO gave an update on status on the bilateral funds at national level and what expectations are communicated to the beneficiary states with regards to the work plan.

4.4 Co-financing per country – FMO assessment

The Management discussed the overview and assessment of co-financing per country prepared by FMO.

4.5 Events in 2013 and 2014

The FMO presented an overview of suggestions for activities in 2013 and 2014. The Management discussed the various inputs and agreed on the focus areas.

5 Issues for information

5.1 Feedback on the Gender workshop 23 May 2012

The issue was not discussed.

5.2 Update on the Hate speech conference 27-28 November 2012

A draft agenda was distributed and discussed.

5.3 Transparency International:

An update of the programme for the Risk Management seminar in Sofia was requested.

5.3.1 Results from the consultation of the Corruption risk assessment tool

The TI Corruption risk assessment tool had been sent to the beneficiary states for consultation with a reply deadline on 15 June 2012.

5.3.2 Briefing from a presentation of TI's Evidence based action against corruption in the European Parliament 6 June 2012

FMO reported back from the meeting and informed Management that a short report summing up the main issues covered will be submitted shortly.

6. Other issues

A draft agenda for the Focal Point workshop 28 June 2012 was distributed and discussed.

7. Next meeting

The next Norway Grants management meeting is planned for 28 August 2012 in Oslo.

Meeting attendees:

From NMFA:
Steinar Hagen
Anders Erdal - part
Ingrid Schulerud
Vibeke Rysst-Jensen
Anne Strand
Tom Tjomsland - part
Mette Jøranli
Torill Johansen
Martina Østerhus
Berit Helene Pettersen
Christian G Halvorsen

From FMO: Stine Andresen Kurt Haugen Rune Vistad Kristin Sverdrup Ragna Fidjestøl Birthe Westerby (coordinator)